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Observations of Comet b, 1882, *with the Transit Circle.*

Greenwich Mean Solar Time.	Obs.	R.A.	N.P.D. (corrected for Refraction and Parallax).	
1882. d h m s		h m s	° ′ ″	
Nov. 16 17 41 26	L.	9 26 10·00	115 3 34·0	Cloudy
17 17 35 11	A.D.	9 23 50·53	115 21 39·9	Very faint; a difficult observation

Observations of Comet c, 1882, *with the S.E. Equatorial. Aperture* 12·8 *inches.*

Greenwich Mean Solar Time.	Obs.	☄ − ✱ R.A.	☄ − ✱ N.P.D.	No. of Comp.	Apparent R.A.	Apparent N.P.D.	Star.
1882. d h m		m s	′ ″		h m s	° ′ ″	
Sept. 27 16 28	M	+2 9·80	+2 49·2	1	7 46 47·90	86 28 20·2	*a*
		+0 49·85	+3 7·2	1	7 46 47·78	86 28 17·6	*b*
27 15·58	M	+0 16·01	−0 28·5	13	7 46 44·24	86 26 58·3	*c*
		+0 12·05	+8 5·2	13	7 46 45·34	86 26 55·7	*d*

Mean Places of the Comparison Stars.

Star.	Star's Name.	R.A. 1882·0.	N.P.D. 1882·0.	Authority.
		h m s	° ′ ″	
a	W.B. VII.–1289	7 44 35·37	86 25 24·6	Weisse's Bessel (1)
b	„ 1324	7 45 55·20	86 25 3·9	„
c	„ 1337	7 46 25·51	86 27 20·2	„
d	„ 1339	7 46 30·57	86 18 43·9	„

The observations are not corrected for refraction or parallax.

The initials W.C., A. D., M., T., L., H., A. P., and B., are those of Mr. Christie, Mr. Downing, Mr. Maunder, Mr. Thackeray, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Hollis, Mr. A. Pead, and Mr. Bennett.

Royal Observatory, Greenwich:
1882, *Nov.* 18.

Observations of the Great Comet (b), 1882, *made at the Melbourne Observatory.* By R. L. J. Ellery, F.R.S.

A brilliant comet, first seen in Australia on the morning of Sept. 9, has since been observed here on every occasion when the very cloudy weather which has prevailed would permit.

It became so bright just before perihelion that it was seen at noon with the naked eye within four degrees of the Sun on the 17th, and was observed on the meridian with the transit circle on three days. It is now (Sept. 25) again visible in the early morning. On the 24th it was easily seen with a 4½-in. telescope three hours after sunrise. Its tail was seen 15° long in the bright dawn, and was about 1° wide at the end. This morning, although markedly less bright, it was seen in the same telescope 20 minutes after sunrise.

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From observations obtained on the 9th, 13th, and 16th, Mr. E. J. White, chief assistant, computed a first approximation to an orbit, which is here given:—

T	Sept. 17·175
	° ′
π	275 12
☊	353 38
i	38 10
log *q*	7·6906

Motion retrograde.

The exceedingly small perihelion distance, as well as the other elements of this comet, exhibit a decided similarity to that of 1843.

The positions hitherto obtained are attached.

Places of the Great Comet (*b*), 1882, *from Observations made with the North Equatorial, aperture* 4½ *in., and the Transit Circle of the Melbourne Observatory.*

Melbourne M. T. Sept.	Greenwich M. T. Sept.	Obs.	No. of Meas.	Comet – Star. R.A.	Comet – Star. N.P.D.	Comet. Apparent R.A.	Comet. Apparent N.P.D.	Compared with
d h m s	d h m s			m s	′ ″	h m s	° ′ ″	
9 17 24 51·4	9 7 44 56·6	W	4	+1 21·37	+ 1 5·82	9 45 46·41	90 53 36·0	Lamont 2277
13 17 37 21·5	13 7 57 26·7		2	+4 31·11	+15 41·02	10 28 48·49	90 17 49·2	30 Sextantis, Cape 5739
14 23 10 13·7	14 13 30 18·9					10 45 53·34	89 55 47·1	Meridian Transits
15 23 22 36·6	15 13 42 41·8					11 2 14·89	89 29 39·2	”
16 23 39 0·3	16 13 59 5·5					11 22 37·75	88 47 55·2	”

The meridian transit of Sept. 15 was observed with great difficulty, the comet being obscured by cloud.

Melbourne Observatory:
1882, *Sept.* 25.

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